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**PATENT**  
Attorney Docket No. 440452

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:

Art Unit: Unassigned

Eric R. SKLAR et al.

Examiner: Unassigned

Application No. 09/803,739

Filed: March 12, 2001

For: DEVICES AND METHODS FOR TEST  
SAMPLE PREPARATION

**RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF INCOMPLETE REPLY**

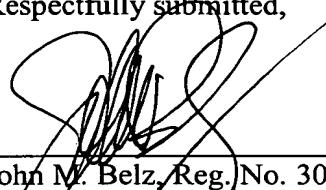
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In the attached Notice of Incomplete Reply, it was noted that an abstract was not provided for this application. Accordingly, an abstract is also attached.

The Abstract was inadvertently not included among the papers filed in response to the previous Notice to File Missing Parts of Nonprovisional Application. The time limit for responding to the previous Notice was extended to the maximum allowable under the statute, i.e., six months. Consequently, applicants' request the abstract be accepted to remedy the inadvertently incomplete reply to the previous notice.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Date: 3 May 2002



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MAY 03 2002  
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231  
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APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING/RECEIPT DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER
09/803,739	03/12/2001	Eric R. Sklar	440452

23548  
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CONFIRMATION NO. 9934

FORMALITIES LETTER



\*OC000000007777012\*

Date Mailed: 04/03/2002

### NOTICE OF INCOMPLETE REPLY (NONPROVISIONAL)

#### *Filing Date Granted*

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office has received your reply on 03/11/2002 to the Notice to File Missing Parts (Notice) mailed 09/10/2001 and it has been entered into the nonprovisional application. The reply, however, does not include the following items required in the Notice.

The period of reply remains as set forth in the Notice. You may, however, obtain EXTENSIONS OF TIME under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a) accompanied by the appropriate fee (37 CFR 1.17(a)).

A complete reply must be timely filed to prevent ABANDONMENT of the above-identified application.

The application is informal since it does not comply with the regulations for the reason(s) indicated below.

The required item(s) identified below must be timely submitted to avoid abandonment:

- An abstract was not provided for this application. An abstract of the technical disclosure is required under 37 CFR 1.72(b).

*A copy of this notice **MUST** be returned with the reply.*

*Mr. Docket*

Customer Service Center

Initial Patent Examination Division (703) 308-1202

PART I - ATTORNEY/APPLICANT COPY